

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Appropriations

Committee

## WITNESS STATEMENT

PLEASE PRINT

NAME Jerry Philipps BILL NO. 334ADDRESS 75 Jodel Lane DATE 2/10/09  
Conrad, Mt. 59425WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT? Sawfly FoundationSUPPORT: ☒ OPPOSE ☐ AMEND ☐

## COMMENTS:

I farm 4000 acres near Conrad, Mt  
I won't touch on Spring & winter wheat.  
I had losses of 15 bu/acre on my  
Barley fields. when Barley falls down  
there is no picking it up, different than  
wheat. also we had 5 bu/acre losses  
on our Durum. At \$15/bushel that  
adds up fast.

In conclusion its not just winter &  
Spring wheats that the sawfly is effecting.  
I hope you will support this bill.

*Jerry Philipps*

EXHIBIT 3  
DATE 2/10/09  
HB 334

Chairman J. Sesso  
Appropriations Committee Members

Please support HB 334.

As a wheat farmer in north central Montana, one of my biggest challenges when it comes time for seeding is finding appropriate wheat varieties that are saw fly resistant.

We have tried many varieties including "Choteau". Even with newer varieties we often must swath the out side rows to mitigate loss due to sawfly damage.

We have tried biological controls in conjunction with the MSU extension program research group. We have recently invested in the Sawfly Research Foundation.

Funding the research with both private and public money will greatly increase the chances that we can control some of the sawfly damage.

I urge you to support HB 334 .

Alan Skari  
Cottonwood Valley Farms  
OM Skari & Sons Farm  
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